

KAMP KANAWANA BROADCAST -----STATION CFCE

There is in all of us an urge from time to time to go off into the woods and live the simple natural life, free from the restrictions and conventions of civilization. This is probably an inheritance from our nomadic ancestors who roamed about, pitching their tents wherever there was grazing ground for their stock. Modern city life has intensified this feeling, and boys particularly, after ten months of conventional life in the city, feel very strongly the urge to get away from it all and to rough it in the wilds.

Many years ago the Montreal Young Men's Christian Association recognized this urge on the part of boys, and opened one of the first summer camps for boys on the North American continent at St. Adolphe de Howard as a branch of their men's camp. In 1909 the demand for a separate ^{boys'} camp was so great that a beautiful site on the shores of Lake Kanawana in the Laurentians was purchased, and for twenty-seven years Kanawana has been the summer home of thousands of Montreal boys.

Camping to-day is of course vastly different from what it was in those early days. Then it was felt that it was sufficient to take boys out into the woods, pitch a tent, and let them rough it. We did not know just what happened, *The boys got sunburned & we watched that they were safe & healthy and presumed* ~~but presumed that something did happen to these boys~~ ~~and~~ that it was a worthwhile experience. To-day, however, with the increase ⁱⁿ of our knowledge of psychology and the other social sciences, the summer camp has come to be looked on by parents and educators as an experience for the developement of character and personality in boys.

Boys are essentially active, and they learn by doing things ~~xx~~ from which they derive satisfaction, and they learn best by repeating these satisfactory experiences. In ~~Camp~~ the boy becomes a member of the community with certain rights and with certain responsibilities. He gains his rights through the carrying out of his responsibilities to the community. This, of course, is the basis of good citizenship, and many boys have received their first lesson in citizenship through their experience in a well-conducted summer camp.

Character and personality are simply the product of the manner in which we respond to all our experiences. In camp there are continually opportunities for making choices and determining ways of action. The unique feature of the camp is that those choices are made under the guidance of mature and competent counselors who have been specially trained for their work. The years that lie ahead of us call for men of strong personality and high private, as well as public, integrity. The wise parent recognizes the contribution which the summer camp can make to his boy's development, and makes provision in the summer plans for the boy to spend some time at least in a properly organized camp, preferably one with a long tradition and experience back of it.

In order to achieve the best purposes of camping three things are essential to success. The organization and the facilities of the camp must be of the best, the staff must be well and carefully selected, ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~must be~~ thoroughly trained in camping methods, and the program must be such that it provides opportunity for choice and initiative and the opportunity for a growing experience.

Kamp Kanawana, with its twenty-seven years of experience, meets ~~these~~ these qualifications in a unique degree. While the camp site itself is situated on the shores of Lake Kanawana, its property of one hundred and fifty acres includes the complete shore-line of three lakes and ~~the~~

a portion of the shore-line of a fourth. The camp is divided into three sections, Juvenile~~x~~, for boys under twelve years of age, Junior~~x~~, for boys twelve to fourteen, and Senior, for boys fifteen to seventeen. Each section is organized with its own director, and staff of counselors.

Each section has its own campus and recreation hall for rainy weather and carries on its own program of activities, graded properly according to the age and interest of the campers. The boys in the Senior and Junior sections sleep in tents, each of which is pitched on ^a high dry wooden platform~~x~~. The boys in the Juvenile section, those under twelve years of age, sleep in cabins which are being erected new this year. These cabins are well constructed and contain bunks for seven boys and a counselor. There is lots of light and air, with all doors and windows well screened. All tents and cabins look out over the lake, each in a choice location.

The fleet of forty boats and canoes permits of an adequate program of water ~~activities~~ activities. Before boys are allowed to use these boats and canoes they must pass certain tests to satisfy the camp authorities as to their fitness and skill in handling them. Three swimming wharves, one in each section, provide excellent facilities for swimming, and for instruction in swimming and life saving.

The dispensary and hospital, under the supervision of a resident ~~graduate~~ doctor, ensures proper care in case of illness or accident. The large cedar log dining pavilion is a ^{spanish} beautiful building and a very popular spot three times a day.

Two large playfields, one on either side of the lake, provide opportunity for games and sports of all descriptions. Off in the woods, along the shore of the lake, is the outdoor chapel where service is held each Sunday morning. Behind the chapel, on the hill, is the Council Ring where campfires ~~are held~~ which have a ^{special} ~~special~~ significance ^{are held}.

Great care is always taken in selecting the staff for Kanawana.

The camp director, who has charge of all activities, is one of the senior secretaries of the Montreal Y.M.C.A. The Section Directors are men with wide experience in working with boys either in the Y.M.C.A. or in school. Associated with these directors is a group of thirty-five trained and qualified counselors, each in charge of a tent or cabin group of six or seven boys. Many of these counselors are old Kanawana ^{campers.} ~~boys.~~ All have attended a thorough training course in preparation for their ~~task.~~ task.

The camp doctor, who is in camp at all times, is a graduate of McGill University, with some years of hospital experience behind him. The chef, who prepares the meals as drawn up by a qualified dietitian, has been ^{cook} ~~chef~~ at Kanawana for the past ten years. We feel that the camp staff is adequate and well trained for their job.

The camp program is so arranged as to take into consideration the individual needs of every boy, and an effort is made to see that each is happily adjusted to his new environment. It is graded according to the age of the boy~~x~~ and his length of stay in camp, so that there is always another new experience just ahead. Periods of relatively quiet activity are alternated with the more active athletic games, and land and water sports. Adequate provision is made for sufficient rest between strenuous activities.

The day's* program is a varied one. When the rising bell rings all boys get up and go down to the lake for their wash and dip. The daily soap bath is an important feature of the day's programme and is followed by an inspection for cuts, bruises, or sores of any kind. All such are immediately reported to the doctor who sees that the necessary treatment is received. After the boys are dressed ~~XXXX~~ comes the signal for breakfast, and it is very seldom that a second call is needed. Following breakfast is the daily ten-minute chapel service taken by a member of the staff.

The next forty-five minutes are spent in cleaning up the dining hall, tents and campus, when everything is put shipshape for the day. Then follow the interest group periods. Here there is opportunity for boys of all types to find something to interest them. There are groups in basketry, woodworking, leatherwork, metalcraft, nature study, photography, dramatics, bird lore, campcraft, woodcraft, canoeing, boating, and many others. Frequently boys, either individually or in small groups, work on particular projects. One group may build a cabin in the woods, another a lean-to across the lake, in which they will later sleep. Perhaps a group will decide ^{that} one of the bridges along a trail needs re-building, and will set out to do that. Some boys decide to build a boat and then there is great scurrying around to find wood, and for a few days there is sawing and hammering going on at a great rate, until the great day comes when the boat is launched and named, and the proud builders ^{set off} ~~go~~ for a trip ~~off~~ up the lake.

There is no limit to the ingenuity of boys, and constructive ideas are encouraged and fostered, leadership and help being given where needed, but the boy's initiative is encouraged at every point.

When the interest groups are over it is time for swimming instruction. Beginners are taught separately with individual instruction, and it is the exceptional boy who does not learn to swim quickly at Kanawana. There are classes also for those who can swim a little, but not well, and classes, too, for advanced swimmers who are anxious to improve their stroke. Instruction is also given in both elementary and fancy diving. At the same time the class in Life Saving is under way, and boys are taught the fundamentals of life saving methods leading to the certificate of the National Council of the Y.M.C.A. There are classes for all grades of swimmers and an effort is made each year to have every boy improve his swimming ability.

After the instruction periods is General Swim, where boys put into

practice what they have learned in the instruction periods. General swim is lots of fun. Two diving boards, one high and one low, provide opportunity for boys to try their skill at the thrilling sport of diving. The long water chute, where boys slide from the top of the hill down into the water with a mighty splash is also lots of fun. Obviously only the good swimmers try these, so that all non-swimmers are keen to pass out of the beginners' class and take their turn on the chute and ~~a~~ diving boards. All swimming periods are carefully patrolled by qualified life-guards placed at strategic points along the water-front and in boats, one life guard for every ten boys.

After the swim the boys lie about in the sun until ~~X~~ dinner time. Each day following dinner there is a song and music period. New songs are learned, and campers with musical ability take turns in playing for the rest of the camp. Then comes rest period. After the strenuous morning the boys need to rest, and for the hour following dinner there is no activity. Boys are encouraged to sleep. Perhaps they read, or write letters home. Sometimes the counselor will ~~xxxx~~ read a story. This hour is essentially a rest hour and it provides recuperation for a busy afternoon.

The afternoon is comparatively free. Boys may boat or canoe, or go on short hikes. The craftshops are open for those who want to work there. Games are organized for those who want them, but no coercion is used to make boys participate if they do not want to. Regattas, swimming meets, athletic meets and other games and sports take place in the afternoon. Before supper is another swim, as carefully patrolled as in the morning.

After supper quiet games are played, or boys again go out on the lake, boating and canoeing. When darkness falls the campfires are lit. Sometimes the fire ~~is~~ is in the Council Ring, sometimes it is on the campus, sometimes on the hill across the lake, or on cold nights in

the large open fireplaces in the recreation halls. What memories these campfires bring to old Kanawanians, of songs ~~sung~~^{learned}, of stories told, of stunts and games, and of the quiet, inspirational note which brings the day to a close. Friendships are cemented firmly around the fires of Kanawana. Then as the embers are dieing down, it's off to bed, to snuggle in between the blankets thoroughly satisfied with life, and determined to make to-morrow an even better day than to-day.

Briefly stated then, the purposes of Kanawana are to provide a camp where a boy is safe, morally and physically,; to stimulate the boys' growth and development by furnishing ample opportunity for happy and profitable activities under the leadership of carefully selected counselors, thus filling each day brimful of fun and happiness, and the keen zest of healthful living; and, through personal attention, to inspire our boys with the ideals of Exx Christian Citizenship, that they may make a worthy contribution to the life of their home and community.

Parents, who are considering the choice of a summer camp for their boys, will be making no mistake in selecting Kanawana, the Y.M.C.A. summer camp for boys. Full information may be secured either by writing or telephoning to any ^{one} of the eight branches of the Y.M.C.A. in Montreal. An enquiry will bring an immediate reply.

enthusiastic

Full benefit

Assoc. with action

Give it to children

K. needs boys

We want to assume that resp.

boys will be better at this - better

Parents welcome - where camp is